

# Issues in the Management of Asbestos-related Diseases

- Epidemiological Investigation (?)
- Victimization (?)
- Detection Method of Early Stage (?)
- Classification and Compensation Scheme (?)

Domyung Paek, MD, ScD

School of Public Health, Seoul National  
University

# Need Any More Epidemiological Work in Developing Countries ?

- Yes !!! . It is a way of addressing questions (or Hypothesis) for different type/stage of problems - Epidemiology by Jung-Der Wang, WHO
- Health Service and Management Issues are also part of epidemiological work.
- Developing countries need their own problem solving process: You got to know, before you can see, and you got to see, before you can feel (Korean Old Saying).

# Victimization of Victims

- **Social Stigmatization Issues:** Only the victims themselves, not others, should call them victims.
- **Rehabilitation Issues:** Re-entry into the job market with the remaining functions should be allowed to achieve a meaningful life after compensation (Lessons from Cases of CS<sub>2</sub> poisoning in Korea)

# Issues of HRCT Use in the Detection of Asbestosis at an Early Stage

- **Radiation Dose** – Not complete scans, but just three or two scans at the level of lung base, middle lobe, and upper lobe.
- **Cost and Facility** – Logistic Problems
- **Reliable and Valid Detection Threshold** below the Conventional 1/0 Profusion Scale of ILO Classification – In Preparation Stage by ILO Teams

# Compensation Scheme for Asbestosis

- Especially for those detected by HRCT
- It should be different from the conventional coal-workers' pneumoconiosis; more emphasis on parenchymal disease and the ability of gas exchanges; more regard for the carcinogenic potential (economic and social implications)

# Needle in the Hay Stack

## – What we can do ?

- Look Out the **Weakness/Hole** in the Existing Traditional and Conventional System
  - former employee and retired workers
  - insensitive tools; no chest x-ray findings for those less than 10 years of employment
  - rigid and bureaucratic administrative process
  - lack of awareness or social activism
- Search for and Organize the "**Magnet**"
  - pulmonologist/pathologist
  - labor union/consumer group
  - lawyers

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